

## Percussive Potpourri

### HARDY STAND-OFF



Bruce Hardy, formerly with Deadringer, has formed his own company and is producing drum mic' holders. *Stand-Off* is designed to mount against the drumshell by hooking around a tension rod. The holder uses a knurled knob and screw hook to place the base flush with the shell. A black Lexan cylinder housing sits atop the mounting piece. Inside the cylinder is a foam shock mount with a short chromed post sticking up. The post has a three-inch fixed height, and is threaded to fit most mic' adaptors. The *Stand-Off* can be installed or removed in seconds, due to the fact that you do not need to remove the tension rod. I used a few *Stand-Off*s on my own drumkit and found them to be noiseless with very good isolation. For bass drum miking, I used a *Stand-Off* on the bottom of a rack tom, along with a gooseneck, pointing downward. This enabled me to get the mic' right through the small hole I had cut in the front head.

After a long period of use, the foam isolator will begin to sag towards the edge of the cylinder. However, the company is working on a neoprene open-cell sponge to combat this. The *Stand-Off* does away with regular mic' stands, gives an uncluttered look, and works very well. An adjustable-height mic' post might be a nice addition.

Since there are only a certain number of positions where a *Stand-Off* can be mounted on a drum, the desired miking spot may be difficult to achieve. One option is to go with a gooseneck or with the *Stand-Off Extendor*. The *Extendor* is basically a flat metal piece with two threaded holes at one end, and a threaded mic' flange at the other. It can be used to mike two drums with a single microphone, or merely as a right-angled extension of the *Stand-*

*Off* post. Hardy has also designed a *Stand-Off* to fit cymbal and hi-hat stands (and drum stands, as well). The *C.S. Stand-Off* has the same basic features as the regular model but is modified to allow horizontal mounting (facing upward). An enlarged hook and curved mount piece are used to accomplish this and, like the regular model, the *C.S.* holds position very well.

The *C.W. Stand-Off* allows mounting of cowbells and woodblocks using the same principle as the microphone *Stand-Off*. Instead of a foam shock mount, the cylinder has double metal posts inside and a U-rod attached on top. The left side of the U-rod is for cowbell; the right is threaded, has a wing nut, and is intended for a woodblock. To mount a woodblock on this would entail drilling a 1/4" hole in the block, which I'm reluctant to do. Perhaps substituting a small cymbal post would be a better idea. Also, the U-rod is welded in place, so it is impossible to place the cowbell on the right and the block on the left.

The *Stand-Off* models work nicely, are sturdy, and are good alternatives to a clutter of mic' stands. The *Regular*, *C.S.*, and *C.W. Stand-Off*s retail at \$24.95; the *Extendor* retails at \$8.95.

### L.P. CLAW



Laun Percussion also has a drum-mounted mic' holder. *The Claw* is made of solid metal with a built-in shock mount, and clamps onto any drum rim. The mic'-holder rod is bent at a right angle, which enables the mic' to be brought in closer or placed further away, merely by reversing the rod's direction. Atop the rod is a flange which will fit most all mic' adaptors. *The Claw* has the advantage of adjustable height.

*The Claw* is quite a bit heavier than the

seven-ounce *Stand-Off*. I could not get *The Claw* to a solid stationary position on my own drums, even when the clamp was tightened all the way. It still moved just a little, and its weight may be one reason why. Retail: \$29.50.

Another *Claw* model is made for percussion accessories, having a straight rod for mounting of cowbells, etc. Retail: \$27.50.

### WUHAN JING CYMBALS

The famous Wuhan factory in China has been turning out instruments for years and years. World Percussion in California is distributing many of the Wuhan products, but the ones that really struck me are the *Jing* cymbals. These are essentially pairs of hand cymbals, available in three sizes: small, medium, and large (roughly 3", 5", and 7"). The *Jing* cymbals have up-turned edges and oversized raised cups. When hit with a drumstick, a *Jing* cymbal will very closely approximate the sound of a loud cymbal bell—especially if mounted upside down. The cutting power is simply incredible! Since they are only sold in pairs, you get two "bell" cymbals for a price range from \$27.00 to \$46.00. I bought a pair of the 7" *Jings*, and found that they suited my needs perfectly—a welcome addition to any drumkit. For more info: World Percussion, PO Box 502, Capitola, CA 95010.

### KEPLINGER SNARE DRUMS



Keplinger drums have hand-crafted, custom-made shells machined of 1/8" plate stock, in either Stainless Steel or Black Iron. The company's main business is the shells, but they do offer hardware-equipped drums as well. The Keplinger I saw was a 5 1/2 x 14 with a stainless-steel shell and chrome finish. (Other platings are available.) The drum had eight double-ended Rogers lugs, Pearl Gladstone-style

by Bob Saydlowski, Jr.

throw-off, Rogers butt, Ludwig 20-strand plastic-ended snares, Gretsch die-cast hoops, and Remo *Ambassador* heads. There is no muffler, and a single venthole is punched into the shell. The drum is heavy, weighing in at 16 pounds.

Being a steel shell, I found it to be very "ringy," but an external damper worked fine to cut down on those overtones. The drum has a very crisp, solid sound and great response at all playing volumes. The die-cast hoops did make for a "clonky"-sounding rimshot, though. Taking this into account, Keplinger has since changed to regular pressed hoops. The drum is capable of a variety of sounds with the coated *Ambassador* head alone. It seems to work well in all situations—rock, jazz, lounge, etc.

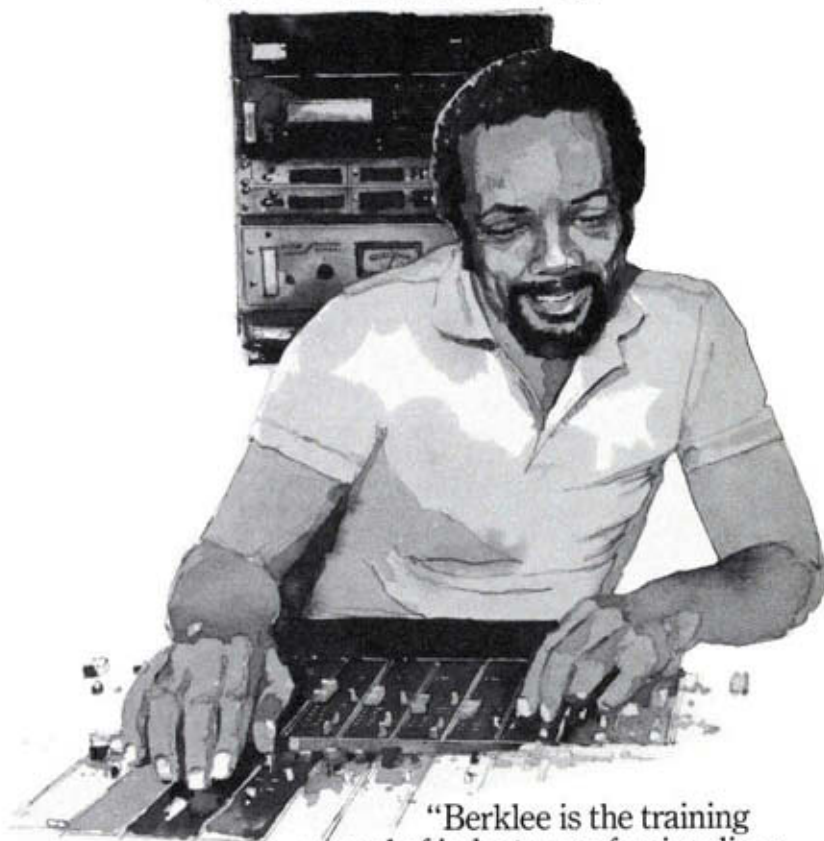
Besides the 5 1/2" depth, the Stainless is available in 6", 6 1/2", and 8". Prices for the shells alone range from \$240 to \$270. For a complete 8-lug drum with their selection of hardware, prices increase by \$120. They will also set up the shells with hardware you supply at no extra charge, as well as do custom sizes and platings. For more info: Soundynamics, 2204 N. 56 St., Seattle, WA 98103.

The following information on Avanti cymbals was accidentally omitted from the Equipment Reference on cymbals which appeared in the August issue of MD.

Size	Price
10" Splash	\$30
12" Splash	\$45
14"	\$55
15"	\$60
16"	\$70
18" (crash)	\$90
18" (ride)	\$110
20"	\$105
20" (heavy)	\$120
22"	\$145
22" (medium)	\$165
13" HH	\$100
14" HH	\$110
14" Hvy HH	\$115
15" HH	\$120
15" Hvy HH	\$130



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